

Freas Kreischer's son, and Shirla Maitland's brother.

That day in court was a moral victory for us. There was a tremendous sense of relief to finally be able to name the guilty party. But it's a hollow victory if Iran is not somehow held accountable. Terrorists continue to terrorize because they can. We have not held them accountable for their crimes, and so they laugh and build more bombs. There has been no justice, so there can be no healing.

And it is galling that my own government continues to allow Iran to get away with murder—literally.

It's a simple rule: one that the parent of any small child can grasp. If your child hits another child with a stick, you have to take the stick away, and give your child consequences. If there are no consequences, the child will keep hitting kids with sticks, because he has figured out that it gives him power.

I want the cruelty and senselessness of terrorism to stop. And there is only one way to do that. We have to take away the stick. There must be consequences.

Senator Specter, thank you for introducing a bill that will finally allow families like mine and Freas Kreischer's and Shirla Maitland's, to pursue rogue nations in the courts and to threaten them by threatening their assets. Their Achilles heel is financial. If we take away enough of their money, they will not be able to afford to build more bombs. And then perhaps you will be spared the agony of losing your brother or your son. If that happens, perhaps this gaping, bleeding wound in my heart will finally be able to heal.

Senator Specter, I want to thank you, on behalf of the families of the Marine Corps Barracks, Beirut bombing victims, for coming to our aid. Thank you for being willing to champion our cause in the Congress by sponsoring this bill. And Senator, I urge you to do everything in your power to enact this bill into law with the utmost haste.

Thank you very much, sir.

COUNCIL ON OCEANS POLICY AWARENESS

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, recently, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy made a series of far-reaching recommendations to help keep our oceans viable for future generations. While the Senate as a whole will not address these recommendations this Congress, I hope we may be able to work on these critical issues next year.

In the meanwhile, my home State of North Carolina has already begun to make real the recommendations of the Commission. For instance, North Carolina public schools have begun fostering formal ocean education in K-12 schools, after the State mandated inclusion of ocean curricula in middle school.

North Carolina is also leading the Nation in heeding the call for improved scientific understanding of the oceans. Of particular pride is the success of the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing System, or SEACOOS, an umbrella organizations of institutions that is building a regional ocean monitoring and prediction system for the southeast States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Through the leadership of the University of North Carolina at Chapel

Hill, SEACOOS aggregates ocean information from federal and non-Federal sources for display and redistribution. This information system supports many uses, from search and rescue and hazardous spill response to providing information for recreational boaters and fishermen. This collaborative effort among dozens of institutions is a model of teamwork that will enable rapid development of a relevant, user-driven multi-purpose system.

As part of the larger IOOS system, SEACOOS will improve the decision-making process for coastal managers, severe weather response teams, and so many others in whose decisions coastal conditions are a factor. Through its scientific contributions to data collection and analysis, SEACOOS will advance the Nation's needs in such broad areas as: marine operations, e.g. shipping and offshore operations like drilling and mining; natural hazard mitigation, e.g. storm forecasting, surge prediction, tsunami warning; climate change and its effects, e.g. interannual variability in water temperature, salinity, nutrients, storminess, plankton species and abundance, fish species and abundance; national security, e.g. toxin trajectories, detection of covert operations; public health, e.g. unsafe biological activity, rip currents, harmful algal blooms; ecosystem health, e.g. changes in food web structure; and sustainable use of marine resources, e.g. fish stock assessments.

Among so many throughout the southeast who have made SEACOOS possible, I especially want to note and thank Harvey Seim, Associate Professor of Marine Science at UNC Chapel Hill. Professor Seim has been the visionary and leader in building this collaborative initiative. His dedication to advancing scientific knowledge that serves the public interest embodies the best spirit of higher education and the academic research enterprise that makes our nation great.

In keeping with the recommendations of the commission, SEACOOS is a model worthy of replicating around the country. It is consistent with the Integrated Ocean Observing System that is called for in the commission report. IOOS is a national, interagency program that the commission recommends be fully funded and implemented to provide a multipurpose ocean information system for the Nation. Legislation to authorize IOOS has already been unanimously passed by the Senate, S. 1400 and companion bills are pending in the House. I look forward to continued congressional support and continued success as we increase our knowledge and understanding of our oceans.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement

Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On September 19, 1998, in Chicago, IL, three men were allegedly attacked by two men who made anti-gay remarks.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HAYWOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DAY

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, this past September marked a devastating hurricane season for many States. My home State of North Carolina was ravaged by not one, but four hurricanes this fall. Western North Carolina was particularly hit hard by Hurricanes Frances and Ivan, which destroyed homes, washed away roadways, and even took lives. Out of this ruin came the challenge of rebuilding and piecing together homes, lives, and communities. As I visited the devastation in Western North Carolina, I found encouragement in the selfless hearts of North Carolinians who went to great lengths to help those struggling through the wreckage left behind. There are many who came together during this crisis. I would especially like to thank the first responders who answered the call of duty. Our first responders are there for us in times of need, and they literally are on the front lines defending our homeland.

On November 21, 2004, the Town of Clyde and the Town of Canton are honoring all those who were involved in the rescue and emergency operations following the devastation which occurred as a result of the hurricane season. November 21, 2004, has officially been declared by those towns as "Haywood County Emergency Operations Appreciation Day."

I would like to commend the efforts of these men and women who are members of the following departments who brought the community together after such devastation: Haywood County Sheriffs Department, North Carolina Highway Patrol, North Carolina Probation and Parole, North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement, North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles, Waynesville Police Department, Canton Police Department, Maggie Valley Police Department, Haywood County Emergency Management, Waynesville Fire Department, Cruso Volunteer Department, Clyde Fire Department, North Carolina National Guard, Canton Fire Department, North Canton Fire Department, Maggie Valley Fire Department, Lake Junaluska Fire Department, Crabtree Fire Department, Fines Creek Fire Department, Jonathan Creek Fire Department, Saunooke